

Hon. Robert T. Matsui

Member of Congress

www.house.gov/matsui/

Robert T. Matsui

Serving California's 5th District

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, November 22, 2004

CONTACT: MATTHEW BECK

(202) 225-7165/(202) 225-0564

MATSUI SECURES FUNDING TO FIGHT CRIME / DRUGS IN SACRAMENTO

Programs will keep kids off the streets, intercept drug traffickers and identify criminals

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congressman Robert T. Matsui announced today the U.S. House of Representatives approved \$500,000 in funding for a new program designed to provide employment opportunities along with substance abuse and mental health counseling to at-risk youth in Sacramento. The program, called the Youth Development and Crime Prevention (YDCP) Initiative, aims to promote responsibility and independence in at-risk youth to help them make positive life choices.

“This funding will help local, at-risk youth develop leadership skills, civic responsibility and give them much-needed support,” said Representative Matsui. **“Often, youth engaged in criminal activity find themselves trapped in a downward spiral that can be difficult to escape. By connecting with our young adults at an early age and fostering positive development through community service and peer support groups, the YDCP program will help them realize their potential.”**

The YDCP Initiative would serve 125 youth who may have been in foster care, are at risk of involvement in the criminal justice system and have a history of substance abuse or mental health issues. YDCP would provide these youth with employment opportunities, mentoring, and peer support. The initiative will also focus on promoting civic involvement and responsibility by engaging youth in activities that will directly benefit the community.

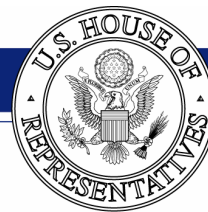
The YDCP Initiative is sponsored by the Sacramento Employment and Training Agency, a part of the Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency. The project is part of the Fiscal Year 2005 Commerce, Justice, State and Judiciary Appropriations bill, which the House of Representatives approved today in a larger Consolidated Appropriations Act. The bill awaits approval by the Senate after which it will be signed into law by the President.

Fighting methamphetamine in California:

Congressman Matsui also joined many of his colleagues from the California Congressional Delegation in securing \$1.5 million in funding for the California Methamphetamine Strategy (CALMS). The CALMS program seeks to eradicate meth abuse and addiction by targeting ‘super labs’ producing mass quantities (often 50-100 pounds of the drug per ‘cooking cycle’) of the lethal drug. CALMS also targets international drug trafficking organizations responsible for the majority of meth production and distribution in America.

Helping police identify criminals:

In addition to assisting programs to keep drugs off our streets, Congressman Matsui joined a regional effort to secure \$250,000 in funding for local officials to purchase state of the art identification equipment. The Identification Based Information System (IBIS), will provide the Sheriff's personnel with a portable system for immediate identification of potentially dangerous criminals and suspects. IBIS uses wireless



Hon. Robert T. Matsui

Member of Congress

Robert T. Matsui

www.house.gov/matsui/

Serving California's 5th District

technology to deliver secure digital data and photographs from local, state and federal databases, as well as capture and transmit thumb/finger prints from the field for comparison with those on file.

###